

**Assuring that everyone who needs mental healthcare
Has ACCESS to the appropriate care
An essential mission of Mental Health Associations**

<u>What's Needed</u>	<u>Why It's Important</u>	<u>How We Can Do It</u>
1. Recognizing the need	Due to: STIGMA IGNORANCE DENIAL 2/3 of people who have a problem (and their families) don't seek treatment	Outreach & Information dissemination focusing on types of people* who are likely to see the symptoms and in a position act *see list of Pathways for each age group
2. Guiding people on how and where to get treatment	Fear of drugs or hospitals, stigma. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE of what mental healthcare is like or where to find appropriate care or what is needed	Information & Assistance , - - listing of resources - booklets (English & Spanish) describing how to get services - Peer support groups - telephone assistance
3. Getting the Right Treatment	- Managed Care Plans limit access to mental health services or medications - Some providers don't utilize the right services, medications, related (non-medical) services or special programs for complex problems.	- Receive complaints - Guide people to advocate for themselves or seek help - Advocacy with Plans Providers & Government to to Improve coverage and services provided

***PATHWAYS TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED**

Children

health care providers
teachers
parents
juvenile justice
child protective services
recreation programs
church
community groups

Adults

health care providers
employer
co-worker
family
church
community groups
friends
law enforcement

Older Adults

health care providers
Sr. Citizen Centers
elderly programs
nursing homes or
other residential centers
family
friends